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**P R O C E E D I N G S**  
**OF THE**  
**LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION**

**BOARD MEETING**  
**Tuesday, February 24, 1970**

**Wild Life & Fisheries Bldg.**  
**400 Royal Street**  
**New Orleans, Louisiana**

**Reporter: Arthur W. Bilotti**



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P R O C E E D I N G S

....The Board Meeting of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission convened at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on Tuesday, February 24, 1970, at the Wild Life and Fisheries Building, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. Mr. J. G. Jones, Chairman, Presiding. . . .

THERE WERE PRESENT:

Mr. J. G. Jones, Chairman

Mr. H. C. Wright, Vice-Chairman

Mr. C. M. Hoffpauer

Mr. C. A. Guidry

Mr. Hobson Norris

Mr. J. L. Winfree

Mr. J. W. Thompson

Mr. J. E. Kyle, Jr.

...ooo...



A G E N D A

MR. J. G. JONES

- ✓ 1. Request of the Louisiana Division of Administration to advertise for bids (5)  
on the Boat Pelican.
- ✓ 2. Announce the dates of the June meeting and Public Hearing in Alexandria -- (2)  
Meeting, June 19th; Public Hearing, June 19th and June 20th.

MR. RICHARD K. YANCEY.

- ✓ 3. Resolution pertaining to the opening of the Delta National Wildlife Refuge to sport fishing. (2)
- ✓ 4. Resolution opposing the dredging of Cocodre Bayou, Concordia Parish. (11)
- ✓ 5. Resolution on teal season. (20)

MR. ALLAN B. ENSMINGER

- ✓ 6. Consideration of the request of (30)  
Broussard Brothers to cut a channel in the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge.



- ✓ 7. Consideration of the request of Cities  
Service Oil Company to drill on State <sup>(34)</sup>  
Lease 2938, Well Number 10, Plaquemine  
Parish, Louisiana, located on the Pass-  
a-Loutre Waterfowl Refuge.

MR. TED O'NEIL

- ✓ 8. Consideration of extending the 1969-70  
trapping season for muskrat and nutria <sup>(36)</sup>  
in certain areas only.

MR. TED FORD

- ✓ 9. Acceptance of completion of contract  
Number 136-C for electrical alterations <sup>(61)</sup>  
at Sister Lake Camp.  
✓ 10. Awarding of bids on proposed improvements  
at Sister Lake Camp, Terrebonne Parish, <sup>(63)</sup>  
Louisiana.

DR. ST. AMANT

- ✓ 11. Discussion of the Louisiana and Texas <sup>(81)</sup>  
Shrimp Regulations.



MR. JOE HERRING

12. Resolution on Stream Preservation. (93)

13. Report on Federal Moneys. (107)

MR. ROBERT A. LAFLEUR

14. Report on Chevron Oil Company well fire. (111)

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THE CHAIRMAN: The meeting will now come to order.

The first item of business is a request by the Commission to the Louisiana Division of Administration to advertise for bids on the Boat Pelican.

Mr. Hoffpauer, do you want to bring that up?

MR. HOFFPAUER: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

The Boat Pelican is one of the gift horses that we have and the boat is in dire need of repair now.

Mr. Guidry ran a survey on it and his report is that the boat is in dire need of repair.



He suggests to us that we should advertise the boat for sale on a bid basis with the Division of Administration because it is felt that it is cost prohibitive to keep the boat.

If we sell it, we could replace it with a smaller, fiberglass-type boat.

MR. CHAIRMAN: At the last meeting we asked Mr. Guidry, as a committee of one, to check into the matter. Clarence, what is your recommendation?

MR. GUIDRY: I recommend that the boat be put up for bid.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. NORRIS: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

MR. KYLE: I second the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the motion by Mr. Norris and seconded by Mr. Kyle.

Is there any further discussion? Is there any objection?

(No response)



THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered.

R E S O L U T I O N

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

that the Louisiana Wild Life and  
Fisheries Commission does hereby  
request the Louisiana Division  
of Administration to advertise  
for bids on the Boat Pelican.

THE CHAIRMAN: The second item of business on the agenda concerns the fact that each year in June we have a Public Hearing in Alexandria for the purpose of hearing recommendations, objections, and comments pertaining to the setting of seasons and bag limits for the coming year.

The meeting for 1970 will be held on June 19th and June 20th at the Ramada Inn in Alexandria, Louisiana.

Item Number three, Mr. Yancey.

MR. YANCEY: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission:

We would like to recommend that the



Commission adopt the resolution requesting the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife to open up the Delta National Wildlife Refuge in Plaquemines Parish to sport fishing during the year except at night and also except during the waterfowl hunting season.

We have several federal and state waterfowl refuges in our coastal marshes. All of these are open to sport fishing and we see no reason why this area also should not be open.

The area does have populations of both fresh and brackish water sport fishes at Delta and, as a matter of fact, one of the Commission's fish biologists wrote his Masters thesis study on Delta and he found some pretty good populations of these sport fishes there.

I, therefore, recommend to the Commission to adopt this resolution along these lines:

#### R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the Delta National





Wildlife Refuge in Plaquemines Parish has traditionally been closed to sport fishing throughout the year, and

WHEREAS, the refuge is inhabited with populations of fresh and brackish water sport fishes and has a potential for providing a considerable amount of recreational opportunity, and

WHEREAS, except for the Delta Refuge, all of Louisiana's coastal marsh waterfowl refuges, both Federal and State, are open to sport fishing, thereby making it possible for the public to observe native and migratory wildlife as well as enjoy sport fishing,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED  
that the Louisiana Wild Life and



Fisheries Commission does hereby request that the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife open the Delta National Wildlife Refuge to sport fishing throughout the year except at night and during the waterfowl hunting season.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the Honorable Walter J. Hickel, United States Secretary of the Interior, and the Director and Regional Director of the Bureau of Sport Fishes and Wildlife.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. THOMPSON: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

MR. KYLE: I second the motion,

MR. Chairman.



THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Kyle.

Is there any further discussion? Is there any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered. Number four, Mr. Yancey.

MR. YANCEY: We would also like to recommend to the Commission that it adopt a resolution opposing the channelization, bank clearing, and snagging on Bayou Cocodrie in Concordia Parish by the U. S. Corps of Engineers, at least that portion of the bayou that extends southward from the junction of Little Cross Bayou down to the junction of Wild Cow Bayou, which is about a twenty-mile stretch of this bayou.

This area is now slated for channelization, bank clearing, and snagging by the Corps as a means of their providing a drainage outlet for two U. S. Soil Conservation Service watershed projects in the central and northern part of the



parish. This is one of the last remaining streams of this type in northeast Louisiana.

All of us are aware of the fact that virtually all of the natural bayous, streams, and rivers in that part of the state have been channelized and destroyed insofar as fish and wildlife are concerned. We feel that this is one stream that should be left in its natural condition.

I, therefore, recommend to the Commission that it adopt a resolution opposing this project.

MR. WINFREE: Mr. Yancey.

MR. YANCEY: Yes, sir.

MR. WINFREE: Is this stream named in this Stream Preservation List that was prepared by Mr. Herring?

MR. YANCEY: It is named, yes, sir. However, the plan for this particular stream is imminent. In other words, they are finalizing plans now for this bayou.

The Stream Preservation proposal is



going to relate to recommendations to the Legislature. They will not be formulated until a later date, but we need to take some action on this stream now.

MR. WINFREE: Well, let me ask you this: Do we have any control over this stream? Does it traverse one of the refuges?

MR. YANCEY: This stream does traverse down through the Red River Wildlife Management Area in lower Concordia Parish.

I think it is the obligation of the Commission to -- even though the portion of this stream referred to in this resolution is above that Red River Wildlife Management Area -- speak out on this matter because this is going to very definitely have a disastrous impact on sport fishing in Bayou Cocodrie.

I think the people up there are depending upon us to advise them of how this matter should be handled.

This is a waterway that affords real



high-quality sport fishing, an area for boating, and outdoor recreation in that part of the state. Unless something is done, we are going to lose it.

We had an all-day meeting with the Corps on the ground up there last week, and the indication that we received was that a lot of the damage that will result can be avoided. That is the reason I think we ought to go on record at this time in opposition to the channelization.

MR. WINFREE: Well, will our opposition have anything to do with stopping this project?

MR. YANCEY: I think it will.

MR. WINFREE: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

MR. THOMPSON: I second the motion, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Winfree and seconded by Mr. Thompson that the recommendation be approved.

Is there any further discussion?

MR. HOFFPAUER: Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hoffpauer.



MR. HOFFPAUER: Mr. Winfree, a point of information, it has been a practice of all wildlife agencies and groups to oppose most of the channelization taking place in the United States now. We have a problem in Louisiana and they have a tremendous problem out West.

It is more or less our duty to oppose these projects.

MR. WINFREE: Well, besides our duty, I'd like to get some results.

MR. YANCEY: That's right.

MR. WINFREE: I don't know whether this has gone so far as to whether or not we might just have to face up to certain facts.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Mr. Yancey, you have been fighting that how long now? Two years?

MR. YANCEY: Well, yes.

Of course, the final decision is going to rest with these two federal agencies. But I think it is our obligation to inform them of our feelings on this particular project.



MR. WINFREE: Could we notify the Police Jury in this particular area and ask them to do the same thing?

MR. YANCEY: Yes, sir, I think copies of this resolution should definitely go to the Police Jury in Concordia Parish.

MR. WINFREE: I think a letter should be sent from the Director to this Police Jury notifying them of our action and asking them to do the same thing.

MR. YANCEY: Right. We would certainly forward to the Police Jury a copy of this resolution because their views are going to be very influential as to whether or not this project goes through.

At our meeting with those people last week, I was surprised to learn they thought it wasn't necessary that they clear and snag this region of the bayou. Of course this raises the question as to why do you have it in your plans. They really hadn't thought about the fish and





wildlife aspect of this thing, and I think the resolution will emphasize the Commission's feeling on that particular project.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there any further discussion? Is there any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered.

#### R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, serious deterioration of fish and wildlife values in virtually all the bayous and streams in northeast Louisiana has resulted from stream channelization, bank clearing and snagging projects carried out in recent years, and

WHEREAS, the conversion of scenic bayous and streams to unsightly canals does in effect destroy fishing, boating, and outdoor recreational opportunities that have traditionally



been enjoyed by the citizens of the State, and

WHEREAS, the U. S. Corps of Engineers is now planning to channelize, clear, and snag Cocodrie Bayou in Concordia Parish as a means of providing a silt-laden drainage outlet for U. S. Soil Conservation Service watershed projects in the area, and

WHEREAS, this Bayou is one of the last remaining in the entire region of northeast Louisiana and since it offers high-quality fishing and stream-side hunting and provides excellent habitat for fish and wildlife as it has for thousands of years,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,



that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby go on record as strongly recommending the protection and preservation of Cocodrie Bayou from the intersection of Little Cross Bayou southward to the intersection of Wild Cow Bayou against channelization, clearing, snagging, siltation or any other such works in order that this scenic stream may be enjoyed by present and future generations,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the U. S. Corps of Engineers, the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, the U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife and the Concordia Parish Police Jury.



THE CHAIRMAN: Number five, Mr. Yancey.

MR. YANCEY: Since 1965, our Louisiana duck hunters have enjoyed four nine-day September teal seasons. The setting of these early seasons is still a very controversial matter, and we feel at this time it would be in order for the Commission to go on record recommending another nine-day September teal season for 1970.

Copies of this resolution to be forwarded to the Department of Interior and the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife since they have the authority over allocating season on waterfowl.

We would propose that the framework for this season extend from September 1st through September 26th, and that nine days of hunting be allowed.

Mr. Thompson suggested that we set a bag limit of six teal because of the controversial nature of this and if we can swing an increased bag, then, perhaps go a little bit further on



another year.

We would also propose that we put in this resolution that consideration be given to opening up the hunting to the taking of other transient species that are coming through Louisiana during September.

Those of you that have participated in these seasons know that we have some shovelers, pintail, and widgeon that move through with these blue-wing teal during that time. The ducks are actually heading for Central and South America and there is no reason why they should not also be allowed to be taken.

That is why we recommend that this should be incorporated in the resolution.

THE CHAIRMAN: As a point of information, Mr. Yancey, before we hear from the federal people, what experience did we have this past year pertaining to violators during the season -- people shooting the wrong kind of duck?

MR. YANCEY: We feel that the violations



during the teal season are less than we experienced during the regular duck seasons that we have had in recent years.

THE CHAIRMAN: From your experience, do you see anything to get alarmed about regarding the violations that took place?

MR. YANCEY: I don't see anything to get alarmed about insofar as the violations during the teal season are concerned.

And certainly, the seasons are biologically sound. In none of the four teal seasons that we have had in the past have more than four per cent of the fall flight of blue-wing teal been taken and another four or five per cent of the blue-wing teal are taken during the regular duck season. So we are really taking only a minor percentage of the overall fall flight of blue-wing teal. That percentage is not even measurable in terms of next fall's teal population.

So the seasons are biologically sound. They will offer an opportunity for the hunters, and will create a lot of interest in waterfowl



programs that are designed to perpetuate the resources.

We feel that the advantages greatly outweigh any disadvantages, and for that reason we do recommend to the Commission the setting of additional seasons.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Winfree.

MR. WINFREE: Mr. Yancey, those figures which you quoted you say represent the violations also -- that four per cent?

MR. YANCEY: Well, --

MR. WINFREE: The reason I am asking: Are you going to be in a position to rebut the Federal Government when you come up with this type of legislation?

MR. YANCEY: Well, the only way we have been able to get these seasons set from year to year is the fact that we have rebutted their ordinance in opposition to these seasons.

The figures that have been gathered in regard to this season show and they, in their own



writings, have said that the seasons have not hurt the teal population or the populations of other continental species.

Here in Louisiana only two or three per cent of the ducks taken during teal season have been ducks other than teal. In fact, we feel that hunters generally have observed the regulations better than they do during the regular duck season.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hoffpauer.

MR. HOFFPAUER: We are using their figures, Mr. Winfree, on most of the tabulations we have. It is just how they apply them that counts.

MR. WINFREE: Well, they can apply them whatever way they want to. We ought to be able to do the same thing.

MR. YANCEY: The best figures we have in arguing for a continuation of the seasons are their figures.

MR. THOMPSON: They make a better case





than we can.

MR. YANCEY: Right.

MR. KYLE: Mr. Yancey, does the teal season have anything to do with the breeding conditions in the breeding grounds?

MR. YANCEY: No, sir.

MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I so move that we --

MR. WINFREE: May I inquire about one more thing?

MR. THOMPSON: Of course.

MR. WINFREE: Mr. Yancey, what Jimmy is saying about the bag limit of six -- as I said yesterday, I sure would like for you to ask for eight, and we might get six.

MR. YANCEY: Well, what we might run up against here is a turn down altogether if we go too far.

We have a tremendous amount of opposition regarding these seasons from the states in the northern end of the Mississippi flyway. If we



go too far with a recommendation, until we get these teal seasons on a continuous basis in our state. -- I think it would be a mistake to go too far with a recommendation. There is no biological reason at all why we should not have a bag limit of eight, but we are dealing here with something of a different substance.

MR. WINFREE: Well, I will certainly be guided by your knowledge regarding this, Mr. Yancey.

MR. NORRIS: What was the number of teal killed during the last season?

MR. YANCEY: We don't have the kill figures for last season, but the year before our Louisiana hunters took about 200,000 teal, actually killed about 200,000 teal.

The fall flight of the teal is normally on the order of twelve million teal -- that is, the blue-wing teal.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Yancey, with that many killed, can I get my share?

(Laughter)



MR. YANCEY: Well, the other states in the Mississippi flyway that have this season took an additional 250,000 birds. So it is still a real small percentage of the overall fall flight that is taken during the course of those seasons in both the Mississippi and Central flyway.

MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I so move.

MR. WRIGHT: I second the motion, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Wright.

Is there any further discussion? Is there any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered.

Thank you, Mr. Yancey.

#### R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the September teal hunting seasons held in Louisiana since 1965 have provided a great amount of high-quality outdoor



recreation, thereby encouraging increased public interest in conservation programs designed to perpetuate the waterfowl resources, and

WHEREAS, the seasons have proven to be biologically sound and have resulted in the taking of less than four per cent of the overall fall flight of blue-wing teal each year, and

WHEREAS, these ducks largely migrate southward down the Mississippi flyway in advance of the regular duck hunting seasons and winter in Mexico and South America, thereby making utilization possible only by means of September hunting seasons, and

WHEREAS, those interested in waterfowl management in



Louisiana are overwhelmingly in favor of continuing the early teal seasons,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby request that the United States Department of Interior authorize the State to establish another nine-day September teal hunting season in 1970 with a daily bag limit of six blue or green-wing teal within a framework of September 1-26, 1970.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the United States Department of the Interior also give consideration to the possibility of permitting the taking of some of the species of other early transient ducks; such as



shovellers, pintail, widgeon  
during the same September teal  
season.

THE CHAIRMAN: The next item of business  
on the agenda will be presented by Mr. Ensminger.

MR. ENSMINGER: Mr. Chairman and Members  
of the Commission:

We have received a request from the  
Broussard Brothers Towing Company in Intracoastal  
City, Louisiana, for a permit to salvage a barge  
which drifted up on our beach at Rockefeller  
Wildlife Refuge about two and a half weeks ago.

They propose to dig a canal in the Gulf  
proper up to the beach and alongside of the barge.  
The barge is partially in the water and the  
remaining part is up on the beach.

The barge has about 4,000 barrels of oil  
in it. They intend to bring another large barge  
into the canal and transfer the oil out of the  
barge into the empty one, and then tow the barge  
on the beach off into the Gulf.



I would like to recommend to the Commission that we issue this company a permit to do this work with the stipulation that they restore our beach to its proper condition if they are required to cut up to the beach itself. And also to stand liable for any damages that might result if there is any pollution spilled from the transfer of the oil.

They have assured me that this will not be a problem. They will be able to handle this without any pollution problems, but I think it should be included in any permit.

MR. WINFREE: Mr. Ensminger, do they propose to ring-levee this barge?

MR. ENSMINGER: No, Mr. Winfree, they don't. The barge is actually sitting out at the edge of the Gulf. They plan to just dig up to the barge and a parallel slip along the edge of the barge in the Gulf, then transfer the oil into the empty barge, tow it out of there, and then go back for the other barge and pull it into the canal.



Actually, a ring-levee around the marsh side of it would do us more harm than any protection we would get from it. It would disturb the beach more than the way they propose to do it.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. WRIGHT: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

MR. KYLE: I second the motion,  
Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wright and seconded by Mr. Kyle.

Is there any further discussion? Is there any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered.

#### R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has received a request from Broussard Brothers of Intracoastal City, Louisiana, to remove a large oil





storage barge from the beach of  
the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge,  
and

WHEREAS, certain terms and  
conditions can be incorporated  
in the permit to protect the  
interests of the refuge,

NOW THEREFORE, be it re-  
solved that the Louisiana Wild  
Life and Fisheries Commission  
does hereby grant permission to  
Broussard Brothers to remove the  
barge contingent upon their  
agreement to the terms and condi-  
tions set forth by the Louisiana  
Wild Life and Fisheries Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that  
the Director is hereby author-  
ized and empowered to sign all  
documents in relation to this  
matter.



THE CHAIRMAN: Number six, Mr. Ensminger.

MR. ENSMINGER: The other item on the agenda for consideration by the Commission is a request from the Cities Service Oil Company to dredge an annex canal on State Lease #2938 to their No. 10 Well location on our Pass-a-Loutre Waterfowl Refuge Area in the mouth of the river. This is an extension of a canal into a marsh out of a natural pass.

I would recommend that it be granted to Cities Service and that standard provisions be taken to protect the refuge included in the permit.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. KYLE: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

MR. GUIDRY: I second the motion, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Kyle and seconded by Mr. Guidry.

Is there any further discussion? Is



there any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered.  
Thank you, Mr. Ensminger.

MR. ENSMINGER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman  
and Members of the Commission.

#### R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild  
Life and Fisheries Commission  
has received a request from Cities  
Service Oil Company to construct  
an access canal on State Lease  
#2938, and

WHEREAS, an examination of  
this proposal reveals that this  
work can be approved subject to  
certain terms and conditions to  
protect the interests of wildlife,

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved  
that the Louisiana Wild Life and  
Fisheries Commission does hereby



grant permission to Cities Service Oil Company to install an access canal to State Lease #2938, Well No. 10, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director is hereby authorized and empowered to sign all documents in regard to this matter.

THE CHAIRMAN: The next item of business on the agenda will be presented by Mr. Ted O'Neil.  
Mr. Ted O'Neil.

MR. O'NEIL: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission:

We have received requests from a number of landowners with overpopulation of muskrats on their land for an extension of the trapping season.

We have looked over the land, walked over it and understand the situation well, and we



are building up a tremendous 'rat population in southwest Louisiana.

We should try to protect the good three-corner grass lands as long as we can, even though trapping may not hold the land in its present condition for long periods like it did in the past because you don't have the number of trappers that you had in the past. So you will have to give every man a chance to protect his own property.

I have some requests for an extension for twenty days in the Vermilion Bay area and in Calcasieu Parish, and if I may, I will read my recommendations:

An extension of the trapping season to March 20th, inclusive, on nutria and muskrat only, is requested in the following areas:

All of Cameron Parish, located west of Calcasieu River and Calcasieu Lake;

All of the tide-affected



three-corner grass marshes along Vermilion Bay, specifically in Vermilion Parish, that area bounded on the west by Freshwater Bayou Ship Channel, and on the north by Intracoastal Canal;

In Iberia Parish, that area south of Intracoastal Canal, and that north of Intracoastal Canal bounded on the east by Bayou Carlin.

MR. O'NEIL: (continuing) These are just about the most heavily populated areas of the state, and they are producing good 'rats and I would like to give them a chance to protect themselves.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I don't believe that these areas are defined.

You give the east boundary only on that



last area. They just say north and south of the canal. Did I miss something?

THE CHAIRMAN: I think what he meant was south of the Gulf of Mexico and east of Vermilion Bay.

MR. O'NEIL: Mr. Thompson, let's see on that --

MR. THOMPSON: Neither one of them were perfectly clear. The last one I didn't understand. You didn't give anything but the east boundary. The land north and south of that area.--

MR. O'NEIL: Yes -- that last is Iberia Parish. It is listed that area south of Intracoastal Canal, and that north of the Intracoastal Canal bounded on the east by Bayou Carlin.

MR. THOMPSON: Where are your north, south and west boundaries?

MR. WINFREE: Iberia Parish.

MR. THOMPSON: The parish lines?

MR. O'NEIL: Yes, the parish lines.



We've defined it on the map to make it clear.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any further discussion?

MR. MAHLER: Mr. Chairman, are you going to listen to any opposition?

THE CHAIRMAN: Oh, sure, sure. Let's get a motion.

MR. THOMPSON: I want to hear the opposition before we get a motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: Okay, go ahead.

MR. WRIGHT: Is it still the practice to give the trappers five days to get their traps out of the marshes?

MR. O'NEIL: Yes, Mr. Wright.

MR. WRIGHT: Do you recommend an extension to the 20th of March, and still give them five days to the 25th?

MR. O'NEIL: No, just until the 20th. Have them out and gone. I think eighty per cent of them will be out of there by the 15th -- the trappers themselves. If the weather turns warm, they will begin to quit. But it does give the landowner a chance to do what he thinks he





has to do.

MR. KYLE: Mr. O'Neil, when we began to start setting these seasons, I think the Commission -- I know I was -- in good conscience was upset about this extension of seasons that apparently comes up every year, and it comes up every year.

The question in our minds and in the minds of the people in the rest of the state is: Is it a question of overpopulation or undertrapping?

MR. O'NEIL: Let me answer the first part of your question. Your thinking is why don't we go ahead and make a season like Texas where they start November 20th and go all the way to March 15th. Texas does have that season. Our situation here is that we have so many 'rats and so many nutria in certain years that if we could not have some control over stopping the length of the season, we may overproduce. The way we set the seasons now gives us a chance to stop the season if we know it might be disastrous to the whole trade.

We know the whole coast is producing



and continues to produce, so we can take our chances on just stopping it there. We also know that there are individuals that won't hurt the market as a whole. If there are just certain areas that need to be trapped, we can give them an extension.

It is a legislative act -- it has been written in the law for many years that we have that authority to extend, curtail, or do anything on any given areas in this state.

MR. WINFREE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Winfree.

MR. WINFREE: I understand that this Commission has the authority to set the dates, but does this Commission have the authority to delve into the economics of this trade? Is that our prerogative, or do we get anything out of it? I would like an answer to my questions just for my own information.

MR. O'NEIL: I would think --



MR. WINFREE: I did not ask you, Mr. O'Neil. I asked the Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: We have the authority to set the season, Mr. Winfree.

MR. WINFREE: I did not ask you that question.

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, let me answer your question. Just as we say many times when we set the deer season or the duck season, we consider -- many of the members of the Commission have said on previous occasions that we consider economic factors, biological factors, and all kinds of factors that may affect the season in question.

MR. WINFREE: Perhaps my question was not as clear as it should be. Do we have the say-so as to who shall buy the fur or who doesn't buy fur, or the price that the trapper shall receive for his fur, or anything of that nature?

THE CHAIRMAN: No.

MR. WINFREE: Well, I heard the statement made that economically these certain people had



certain moneys in their furs already bought. Now, would this work a hardship on those people who have already bought their furs as against these furs that would now be sold? Would it cut the market? In other words, would the furs be cheaper today than they would be tomorrow or would these people be getting any sort of distinct advantage economically? That is what I am trying to find out.

THE CHAIRMAN: I think Mr. O'Neil's explanation to that would be that he felt that it would not. Am I correct?

MR. THOMPSON: I don't think that is what Mr. Winfree is asking. Someone said yesterday that Mr. O'Neil said that he knew that certain buyers had surplus moneys and could buy these things. I think that what Mr. Winfree is asking is do we have the right to go in and say, "Joe has \$10,000.00; let's catch some more muskrats."

THE CHAIRMAN: No, I don't think that is the type of economic factor that we can consider.



MR. O'NEIL: I would think that, Mr. Thompson, --

MR. THOMPSON: I am just quoting. Don't direct it to me. I know what I am going to do.

THE CHAIRMAN: Let me ask you something, Mr. O'Neil. Biologically speaking, what biological recommendation do you have?

MR. O'NEIL: My recommendation would be to let those trappers that have that overpopulation to trap their lands to try and protect their lands. Even if they get less -- not that they could get less -- they would be better off by trapping the 'rats that they have there now in an effort to try and protect themselves and their lands for next year.

Most of these people didn't start until December; they started after Christmas.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other discussion?

MR. KYLE: Mr. O'Neil, is this land undertrapped or was it overproduced?

MR. O'NEIL: It is a combination of



the two. There is a shortage of trappers. We know there is a shortage of trappers. If we had a way to find every trapper in the eastern part of the state that did not have a trapping ground -- if we have a trapping organization whereby we could transfer those trappers, like a one-ring circus, we could handle this problem. If we had a good trapper in the east who would need a trapping ground and there was a landowner in the west who would need trappers, well, then maybe we could handle it better. But right now, there is a shortage of trappers in the west and a shortage of good trappers in the east.

MR. WINFREE: Does this thing work like -- do most of these trappers follow the harvest? Are the trappers hired, or do they have their own leases, or do they make some sort of arrangement with the landowner to get so much per skin, or just how do they operate?

MR. O'NEIL: Usually these fellows have a certain piece of ground allotted to them by



the landowner for trapping, or he owns it, or he knows the landowner and he goes there every year. If he runs out of fur, he is through. He doesn't usually go anywhere else.

We have done this a little bit, that is, switch trappers who needed trapping ground and placed them in other areas. We have experimented with this a little bit. It seems to be our answer to the shortage of trappers.

We used to have at one time 12,000 to 15,000 licensed trappers in Louisiana. Now it is 4,000 to 5,000 and we are producing the same number of pelts as we were during what we consider the good old days.

We are producing a lot of pelts considering the nutria and muskrat, and your marshes today are taking more pressure from both muskrat and nutria because they both are on the same marshes.

MR. WINFREE: Going back to what Mr. Kyle asked you as to whether this is a question



of overpopulation or undertrapping, you just got through saying that they don't start trapping this until after Christmas. Well, now, when did we set the trapping season?

MR. O'NEIL: On December 1st. But the reason they did not get started is because the furs are not prime.

In certain areas, furs don't prime until later and sometimes they don't know that they have as many 'rats as they do. Even the most experienced landowners don't know how many 'rats they have. The 'rats move in on them after the season starts. Also, they don't want to catch what few 'rats they have while they are not at top quality -- prime quality.

In the western part of the state 'rats did not prime until actually Christmas or after. They had to move some nutria -- the landowners had to get the nutria off before they even could start trapping the 'rats.

MR. THOMPSON: Ted, in other words, they





more or less built themselves up a reserve that they could trap with an extended season.--in other words, waiting for a better fur.

But, of course, you told me yesterday that it was possible for the fur to go the other way from this point on. You said that the trappers try to build up to the prime fur and catch all they can, and what's left, to come as it may whether the fur is good, bad or indifferent. In other words, right now the fur is going the other way, there is no question about that, due to the warm weather.

MR. O'NEIL: Percentagewise, it is beginning to go the other way. The peak of primeness is past.

MR. THOMPSON: Now they will get the scraps, so to speak.

MR. O'NEIL: Not necessarily. They are getting a lesser quality of 'rat, but they are still gaining by protecting their land for next year.



Most of these landowners did think in terms of an extension. You hit that point right. They did not go in there thinking that they were going to end on the last of February. They did think in terms of an extension.

THE CHAIRMAN: Ted, what is going to happen to the lands where the 'rats are overpopulated?

MR. O'NEIL: The lands on both of these areas that we are recommending now were eaten out the last time. They were seventeen years with poor production before the lands came back. They had seventeen years of poor production.

Generally speaking, before the nutria, it used to take seven to twelve years for this peak-type of production because the muskrats were on their own. They had this terrain for themselves. Now they have to compete with the nutria and the nutria seems to disturb the situation. The trappers have found out that the 'rats don't work like they used to; the 'rats are



harder to catch; they stay underground more. You have got to go in the holes to catch the 'rats. There is a disturbance with 'rats and nutria that is just a bigger problem than it used to be.

We have found that somehow they seem to have learned to live together. It seems they can make it together, but the problem is bigger than it used to be.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other discussion, gentlemen?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Ted, please sit down while this other gentleman, Mr. Mahler, comes up to be heard.

MR. MAHLER: Mr. Director, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission:

Let me answer one question that Mr. Winfree asked Mr. O'Neil which I don't think was answered correctly. The question is why didn't they start trapping on December 1st.



Ninety per cent of this land that Mr. O'Neil is referring to is leased out to duck hunting clubs and the trappers are guides. They are not allowed to trap in the early part of the season. I think Mr. O'Neil will admit that.

Another thing I want to say, gentlemen, is I hate to talk about my business in public. I have one million dollars invested in furs, all quality fur. Now you are asking that we go and extend a season and put inferior-quality merchandise on the market. The people we sell to in Europe -- let's not kid ourselves, ninety-nine per cent of our output of fur are sold to Europeans -- they already know in Europe that there is an anticipated extension of fifteen days in Louisiana. The trade in Europe has stopped for the last ten days. They are waiting to see what is going to happen.

Now, talking about the price of your West Louisiana muskrat and nutria, I would venture to say that I am the largest dealer in



West Louisiana nutria and muskrat this year in the state of Louisiana.

I paid as high as \$4.40 for western tops that come from Cameron and Vermilion. I am buying today for \$3.50 because they are unprimed and I want to stop buying because that type of merchandise we cannot put on the market and make a profit on it.

Now, we are talking about the muskrat, too. I bought muskrat in Vermilion and Cameron as high as \$1.46 average. Right now I can buy them for \$1.20; I am refusing to buy because the quality of the merchandise is not there.

Another thing you are talking about, the overpopulation of your marshes in Louisiana. I venture to say that one-half of one per cent of your marshes in South Louisiana are overpopulated. Is that a reason for an extension of a season?

I saw some men that came in from my parish last year that asked you to open the shrimp season ten days before. The Commission saw



no reason to open the shrimp season ten days before. They went out and went shrimping. They were arrested and they were jailed. We had a lot of shrimp in Terrebonne, but I didn't agree with them because the law says it opens on a certain date. I think you men have a duty for conservation.

What I am talking to you about is not only the industry that we are in, but conservation.

You have room in the marshes in this state for the muskrats to move away from where they are overpopulated, as far as I am concerned.

I simply don't agree with Mr. O'Neil.

MR. THOMPSON: Question: Did I understand that 'rats migrate?

MR. MAHLER: Yes, sir. Mr. O'Neil and I were discussing that this morning.

MR. THOMPSON: Ted, did you say that in your talk -- that they would move in -- I believe that is the term?

MR. O'NEIL: Yes, sir.



MR. THOMPSON: In other words, if they are overpopulated right here, it is possible that they would move over a little bit.

MR. O'NEIL: That's right.

MR. THOMPSON: Everything being judged equal, I just want to know if they could and would move.

MR. MAHLER: They will move, Mr. Thompson. Mr. O'Neil and I were discussing that this morning. It is funny; I don't know the reason for it.

It seems the 'rats will move from east to west in the state of Louisiana. As far as I am concerned, they started in St. Bernard and Plaquemines, moved into Terrebonne and Lafourche, and on over to the west.

Of course you have a different type of 'rat in the western part of the state.

THE CHAIRMAN: How come they pay a lot more for them in the west than in the east?

MR. MAHLER: Because you have different



type of 'rat.

THE CHAIRMAN: But you just said they move over there. It is the same 'rat.

MR. MAHLER: Gentlemen, I remember last year when we came up here and argued about the same thing. My good friend, Mr. Thompson, asked Mr. O'Neil if he wanted to set the season till March 15th for the next year. Then you could trap till the 15th, but Mr. O'Neil did not set the season till the 15th; he left it on the 28th. So lets set the season for next year till the 15th and if I don't want to trap, I can quit. Whoever wants to trap, can trap within the season.

But I think it is like Mr. Winfree said. What you are doing here is fooling around with the economics of a business, not only the conservation of it, but the economics of an industry in Louisiana, and that is why I disagree with Mr. O'Neil.

I think if the season is extended, you are going to hurt the industry and you are not





working for conservation.

Thank you very much.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there anyone else in the audience who wants to be heard?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, what is your pleasure?

MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion to extend the season in that particular area until the 15th of March.

THE CHAIRMAN: A motion by Mr. Wright -- you said until the 20th, didn't you, Mr. O'Neil?

MR. O'NEIL: It would be all right that it be extended until the 15th.

THE CHAIRMAN: The motion is for the extension to be until the 15th.

Is there a second?

MR. THOMPSON: You die without a second.

Since there is no second, Mr. Chairman, I move that we go to the next item on the agenda.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right.



The next item of business on the agenda will be by Dr. Ted Ford.

MR. MAHLER: Mr. Chairman, one more thing.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Mahler.

MR. MAHLER: May I ask the Commission to give me some publicity so the trappers will understand.

MR. THOMPSON: No need to give it any publicity. The season is over with; it has not been changed.

MR. MAHLER: Thank you, gentlemen.

MR. WRIGHT: I think they are trying to manipulate it both ways.

MR. THOMPSON: Well, what do you want, Clay?

MR. WRIGHT: What I am talking about is that if you manipulate to keep the price high or if you manipulate to keep the price low.--

MR. WINFREE: Just a minute, I am not manipulating anything, Mr. Wright.



MR. WRIGHT: I know that, but they keep talking about how much money they have involved. Jim, that is what I am talking about.

MR. WINFREE: That is not our concern. I had asked the question point-blank if we would manipulate the market.

MR. WRIGHT: I made the motion on the recommendation of a biologist. I want you to know that was the reason I made the motion. If we are going to keep the prices high -- I don't know, that is the argument I get all the time.

MR. WINFREE: Well, I am not worried about arguing about the price. I am not delving into the economics of the business, I don't think that is our purpose.

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, then, I think if we talk about that, Jim, we are dealing with biology. The only biological recommendation we received was from Mr. O'Neil. That is, if we are going to forget about economics.



MR. WINFREE: Mr. Chairman, all I am talking about is that last year Mr. Thompson did say that if we set the season he didn't think it should be extended. I don't wish to get into an argument about it.

I wouldn't have voted for it if the motion had been seconded. I don't know, I might have been the only abstaining vote, but it was against my principle to have voted for it.

MR. WRIGHT: If it would come down to that, Jim, I would prefer for them to open the season and let the Commission close it as the Commission sees fit.

MR. WINFREE: That has some merit to it.

MR. WRIGHT: In other words, don't put a closing on it. Close it in the areas that need closing and let it run in the areas that do not have to be closed.

THE CHAIRMAN: Dr. Ford, please.

DR. FORD: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission:



We have a contract No. 136 for electrical alterations at Sister Lake Camp that has been completed satisfactorily by Moosa Electric Company of Houma, Louisiana.

We have a certificate from the Louisiana Department of Public Works dated November 17, 1969, that the work was performed in accordance with the specifications and plans and under the supervision of the Louisiana Department of Public Works for this Commission.

I, therefore, recommend to the Commission acceptance of this work and suggest the following resolution for your consideration:

#### R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, by certificate from the Louisiana Department of Public Works dated November 17, 1969, Moosa's Electric Company, 1218 Lafayette Street, Houma, Louisiana, has satisfactorily completed the electrical alterations at



Sister Lake Camp in accordance with Contract No.136 and in accordance with the specifications and plans under the supervision of the Louisiana Department of Public Works, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission at their regular monthly meeting on February 24, 1970, does hereby accept that work and authorizes payments in accordance with the provisions of the contract, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director is hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all documents for the completion of this contract.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?



MR. THOMPSON: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

MR. NORRIS: I second the motion,  
Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Thompson and  
seconded by Mr. Norris.

Is there any further discussion? Is  
there any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered.  
Number ten, Dr. Ford.

DR. FORD: Thank you, sir.

This relates to proposed improvements  
at Sister Lake Camp, Terrebonne Parish, and I  
would like to make a hurried review for you on  
this.

At our December meeting, I recommended  
that we reject the bids received at that time  
because we only received two bids and there  
was a \$40,000.00 difference between the two bids.

We requested the Department of Public  
Works to re-advertise this contract for proposed



alterations around the camp and they have done so.

This time, at the bid opening on February 9th, they received four bids for this work. The bids received on this second letting are much more representative in that there is only a difference of some \$8,500.00 between the low and the high bid.

It should be noted that the low bid received on February 9th was approximately \$2,043.00 more than the low bid received on November 3, 1969. This is believed due to an increase in the wage rates amounting to about four per cent between the time of the two advertisements. It also should be noted that the low bid received on February 9th resulted in an increase of about two and a half per cent above the low bid received on November 3rd.

Therefore, they recommend acceptance of this bid if funds are available.

In accordance therewith, I recommend for your consideration the following resolution:





## R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Public Works has received bids on two occasions for the proposed improvements at Sister Lake Camp, Terrebonne Parish, in order to obtain the best possible price for performing this project, and

WHEREAS, only two bids were received at the first bid opening with a difference of over \$40,000.00 and being considerably greater than the original estimated cost of this work, and

WHEREAS, four bids were received at the second bid opening having a spread of less than \$8,500.00 between the high and low bids, and



WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Public Works has recommended acceptance of the low bid in view of the recent increase in the prevailing wage rates if funds are available, and

WHEREAS, it appears as though the Oyster, Water Bottoms and Seafoods Division will be able to handle its proposed capital improvements by utilizing federal aid funds for cost-sharing purposes for one of its other projects, making sufficient funds available for this project, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission at its regular monthly meeting on February 24, 1970,



does hereby accept the low bid offered for the proposed improvements at Sister Lake Camp, Terrebonne parish, for \$81,925.00 as submitted by the Javy J. Pertuit Contr., Inc., Raceland, Louisiana, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director is hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all documents for the execution of this work.

MR. GUIDRY: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

MR. WRIGHT: I second the motion, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Guidry and seconded by Mr. Wright.

Is there any further discussion?

MR. THOMPSON: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Thompson.

MR. THOMPSON: Ted, how much is Sister



Lake Camp worth itself? The facilities?

DR. FORD: If we were to update the --

MR. THOMPSON: No, no, no. How much is Sister Lake Camp worth the way it stands?

DR. FORD: As it is right now?

MR. THOMPSON: Yes, the camp itself.

I am not talking about these canals, bulkheads and such -- just the camp itself.

DR. FORD: Right. I would estimate the value of the camp to be close to \$75,000.00 or \$80,000.00, perhaps even more if it had to be replaced as is.

This is one of the things that we learned recently when Hurricane Camille hit. We had recently increased the value of insurance on our facility at Grand Pass Camp to some \$60,000.00. When we were contemplating replacement costs, we were thinking along the lines of something approaching \$100,000.00 to \$125,000.00.

MR. THOMPSON: But then if you replaced it, you would have the updating that you are considering that will eventually come on this



camp. In other words, you will have to eventually update this camp. Is that correct?

DR. FORD: We believe it is very comfortably arranged and situated and it meets our needs in that area.

MR. THOMPSON: No, you didn't follow me.

DR. FORD: I beg your pardon.

MR. THOMPSON: You didn't quite follow me.

It's comfortably arranged and so forth, but to update it to what a \$125,000.00 new one would look like, you are going to have to update this camp to bring it up to standards.

DR. FORD: No, sir, it is satisfactory as it is. I am saying as a replacement cost. Now, this camp was originally built for, I would guess, around \$20,000.00, but it was built in the late '30's.

MR. THOMPSON: Ted, what I am trying to figure out in my own mind is whether we would be better off to turn this bid down -- which,



seriously, I think I am going to vote that way -- and take this money, some \$80,000.00, and build ourselves a new camp on a more desirable location.

I think I have learned from you and some other people in the department that there are better locations. Am I correct in that?

DR. FORD: Yes, sir, it is possible that there are better locations.

MR. THOMPSON: No, I don't want "possible". You told me one time that there were better locations.

DR. FORD: We suspect that across the embayment from where we are presently located might be a better location; it has deeper water approaching the banks.

MR. THOMPSON: That's what you told me.

DR. FORD: Yes, but --

MR. THOMPSON: Well, I would like to urge --

DR. FORD: May I comment further, sir?

MR. THOMPSON: Of course, Ted.



DR. FORD: This is categorized as a capital improvement item. We would probably have to get special authorization, either from the Division of Administration or the Legislative Budget Committee, and even then, I question whether it could be utilized for that other purpose.

We were confronted with this problem approximately six years ago following a hurricane in which we made some extensive repairs.

MR. THOMPSON: I believe, gentlemen, that I urge you --

MR. GUIDRY: May I say something?

MR. THOMPSON: Go ahead, Mr. Guidry.

MR. GUIDRY: This movement at Sister Lake Camp was made when it was completely demolished by the hurricane. There was a lot of money spent on it to place it where it is and it is a question of saving what you have now, gentlemen. You have \$75,000.00 worth of camp. What are you going to do with it?



MR. THOMPSON: What happens, Dr. Ford, if you don't do this work?

DR. FORD: It is almost impossible to maintain a channel into the camp site.

THE CHAIRMAN: How permanent is this channel improvement going to be? Is it something we are going to have to do in five years?

DR. FORD: We hope not.

Therefore, we have gone to the Department of Public Works and explained our problem and asked them to come up with what they would recommend.

THE CHAIRMAN: They recommend this as a permanent improvement that we won't have to come back and do it again?

DR. FORD: Well, they never qualify it on that basis.

On the basis of our experience, I would suspect that from time to time -- five, ten-year intervals -- yes, there will be maintenance dredging, that sort of thing, because in this shallow marsh area you get filling unless you





have good circulation of currents.

THE CHAIRMAN: To move it elsewhere, you figure you will lose a facility worth some \$75,000.00?

DR. FORD: Yes, sir.

MR. THOMPSON: Are you going to lose it completely?

DR. FORD: No, sir, we wouldn't lose it, but something would have to be done with it, such as advertise it for sale or something like that.

MR. HOFFPAUER: No use for it at all?

DR. FORD: The use is contingent on the accessibility and if you can't get to it --

MR. THOMPSON: How deep is the water in the channel now, just roughly?

DR. FORD: During the winter low period, you can get to the camp with an outboard hull, like a 13-foot Boston Whaler. Even then, you turn up mud as you come in.

The boats that serviced the camp and patrolled the area are larger than this. They



are 22-foot boats and have outdrives on them.

In a period of three weeks, the two boats that work in that area had to have complete overhauls. It was a matter of having to get there and they were trying to carefully dig their way in as you can do in a soft mud situation, but it just overheated the motors.

MR. WINFREE: Ted, what I think Mr. Thompson is trying to get straight in his mind is that you say you have a camp that is worth approximately \$75,000.00; you propose to let a bid for some \$80,000.00. Now, what he is trying to find out is if you took this \$80,000.00 and moved it to a new location, couldn't you build a new camp for \$80,000.00 without this revetment and canal dredging? Could you salvage anything from the old camp and build a new camp?

DR. FORD: I do not believe it could be done for this on the basis that we would have to do it. I think if you were a private individual and your own contractor, yes, you could do it.



You could put in your pier, your wharf, your boathouse and other things accordingly, but I don't think we as a state agency contracting this work can do it on that basis.

MR. WRIGHT: Dr. Ford, may I ask you a question?

DR. FORD: Yes, sir.

MR. WRIGHT: Does the Department of Public Works recommend that we accept this bid as is?

DR. FORD: Yes, sir, if the funds are available.

MR. WRIGHT: Do you recommend that we accept this bid?

DR. FORD: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Dr. Ford, one more question for you from Mr. Thompson.

MR. THOMPSON: At high-water stage, whenever that is, is it feasible that these facilities could be put on a barge and moved?

DR. FORD: I certainly think that from



an engineering standpoint, yes, there is a feasibility.

MR. THOMPSON: I know you are not a engineer, Ted, but would you grab a figure out of the air as to the cost?

DR. FORD: It would be a rather difficult situation.

MR. THOMPSON: Gentlemen, I urge you to vote against the awarding of this contract until we go into this thing a little further.

And with respect to you, Ted, I am not trying to argue with you because I know you are sincere in your feelings and your thoughts on this, but I think we are making a mistake.

I think we ought to relocate this camp and I think somebody with a sharp pencil can engineer it out where we can move this camp and not spend any excess or just a little bit to do it so that we can alleviate this problem of channelization that we have so often.

Since I have been on this Commission, I



know we have spent moneys -- the moneys might have been spent because of the hurricane, but I know we spent moneys on Sister Lake Camp several times.

I urge you to vote against this recommendation.

THE CHAIRMAN: I think we have a motion and a second on the floor. Is that correct? Okay.

MR. KYLE: Dr. Ford, would it be to our advantage to buy a drag-lining barge to keep that channel clear?

DR. FORD: We can do this from time to time, but we are getting a shift -- let me explain if I may with your indulgence.

We were having a serious erosion problem. We went to Public Works and told them our problem. They recommended that we put a shell mat in and to rip-rap with stone the front and west side of the camp there.

Subsequently, what has happened is that the currents have been such that they have shifted the shell to the back side of the camp a good bit.



Now we also get some filling in with this.

What happens in this area is that we enjoy reasonably good water levels in the late spring, summer, and into the early fall. When the winter winds come, they tend to blow the water out of this area and customarily and normally we have low tides all across the marsh.

So you are probably talking about a two-foot differential right there, possibly more.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any further discussion?

DR. FORD: May I ask one question?

THE CHAIRMAN: Dr. Ford.

DR. FORD: Mr. Thompson's suggestion was that we restudy and re-evaluate this, and then we would come back and discuss it with you. Is this what you had in mind, Mr. Thompson?

THE CHAIRMAN: What did you have in mind, Jimmy?

MR. THOMPSON: I just had in mind that a sharp pencil can figure a better way. What the way is, I don't know, but I just don't think we



are making the proper move at this time. In my business I wouldn't handle it this way; maybe in the State you do, but I just can't vote for this.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other discussion?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: All those in favor of the motion to accept the contract for Siter Lake improvements, raise your hands: Mr. Guidry, Mr. Kyle, and Mr. Wright.

All those opposed, raise your hands.  
Mr. Norris and Mr. Thompson. That's three to two.  
I vote for it. Mr. Winfree is not voting.

MR. THOMPSON: How did the Chairman vote?

THE CHAIRMAN: I don't have to vote, but I would vote for it. The reason I would vote for it is that the Department of Public Works recommended it and Dr. Ford recommended it.

MR. WINFREE: Well, while we are still on this and have not moved, I would like to explain my abstention, not that it is necessary.

It is just against my principle when



this Department comes up with an idea and says it costs \$50,000.00 to replace this with an additional \$15,000.00 for sidelining.

Now, I can't understand why we have \$65,000.00 as against \$80,000.00 or whatever it is supposed to be. I can't understand how we can be that far off. We are supposed to have some engineers in the Department of Public Works and they tell me about the labor cost going up and that sort of thing.

And also the fact that you say if we don't spend the money now, we are going to lose it. I am not for spending money just because we got it.

Those are the reasons why I am abstaining in my vote.

THE CHAIRMAN: Dr. St. Amant is next on the agenda speaking about the Louisiana-Texas Shrimp Regulations.

DR. ST. AMANT: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission:





Perhaps Mr. Kyle would like to introduce a question so that I might comment on it.

THE CHAIRMAN: I was going to suggest that you go ahead and comment.

(Laughter)

DR. ST. AMANT: Well, I understand that there has been some discussion about the differences in Texas shrimp licensing procedures or costs and about those in Louisiana. There have been some meetings and some people would like to see some changes made. No one at this stage has approached any of us in the Commission that normally would deal with this. So it is not quite clear to us exactly what they want.

I would like to make it clear to begin with that when you talk about reciprocal agreements between states, you have to keep the licensing and regulations separated.

Licensing can be handled relatively simply I would think, but I do believe we would have to have statutory permission to do so.



We operate our licensing now under existing laws which state what the residents' licenses are, and what the non-residents' licenses are. There is no simple way for us to juggle this around.

I think it would be relatively simple to prepare some type of legislation and have it passed at the next regular legislative session that might suggest changes in cost in the licensing procedures.

One proposition that has been mentioned is a reciprocal licensing set-up -- in other words, similar to the way some universities handle their out-of-state tuition. That way, Louisiana would charge the out-of-state boats the exact same license charge that that state charges Louisiana fishermen. This would seem equitable and I would assume that it is constitutional.

I can see no problem here if the shrimp association or shrimpers would like to see a change. They could select a committee and have



them meet with us, or if they will have their attorneys and our attorneys -- we could probably draw up the proper legislation for this in time for the session in May, and could submit it because I think at that time we are going to have some other changes in the shrimp law.

If you are talking about reciprocal agreements on regulations, then you get into more of a headache.

The states like to run their shrimp programs differently. Sometimes it is based on biological information; sometimes -- I hate to say it -- it is based on other reasons, either local feelings or economic reasons.

It just so happens that when you talk about regulations between Texas and Louisiana, you may get into the size situation of shrimp.

Texas has a very large size on shrimps -- heads off. We would practically catch nothing in Louisiana waters -- inside waters in Louisiana -- if we went to their size. You would have to



catch all your shrimp offshore, perhaps ten or fifteen miles. So if we get involved in reciprocal agreements, somebody has to settle this.

The next thing we get involved in is the timing of the season. It just so happens that shrimp don't grow the same rate at the same time in Louisiana and Texas. As you go west, the season gets later and later. It is obvious if we try to set up an agreement on a place like Sabine Lake, they are going to want it to their benefit and we to ours.

I have found out in dealing with some people that they generally want the strictest regulations in reciprocal agreements on a mutual body of water like Sabine Lake or Pearl River. I don't know why. This makes enforcement problems extremely difficult. The only real way you can have a reciprocal agreement on regulations on any boundary line is to go to the most lenient regulations, that is, the longest seasons, the smallest-sized shrimp, and everybody can fish



across the entire body of water. If you try to set up a Texas area and a Louisiana area, or a Mississippi and Louisiana area, then you will get into some rather complicated positions.

I think that through the mechanics of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, which will have its next meeting in March, these problems can be explored. We can kick it around and get some ideas. We would have time after the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission to present legislation or it is possible -- it may be a little fast -- but it is possible that we could draw up some rough legislation between now and March 17th, and have the various states take a look at it at this Gulf States meeting. I would strongly recommend, however, that members of the Louisiana shrimp associations try to be present at some of the Gulf Stream meetings. This is what it is for. We have a legal compact with other states whereby we can work out these problems, and it is at this area that you can meet



fishing interests from other states and the administrators who run these states. I believe we might have a little more success this way.

I think if you take the attitude that you want some type of punitive legislation whereby we would just design our laws to be very difficult for out-of-state people, I think you will find that they are unconstitutional, inequitable, and they will not stand the tests of the courts. This has been tried before by Louisiana, Texas, and other groups, and in time they fall.

That's about all I can say, gentlemen. If you have some specific questions, I will try to answer them for you.

MR. KYLE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to say something.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kyle.

MR. KYLE: I brought this up regarding regulations because some of the legislators received complaints that Louisiana boats were discriminated against economically in Texas by



their system of licensing fees.

The thing I would like to ask is not that any action should be jumped up and taken, but the question is whether it is a fact and if it is a fact, to what extent, so that possibly we may know what we are looking at before we act.

DR. ST. AMANT: I think this is the case in some instances. Some of the states do have laws that have out-of-state requirements that are expensive, if not strict. There have been a few cases where Texas and other states have tried to make you buy -- and I think this happened with the oyster license where you could buy the license only on a certain day of the week, on a certain date of the month, at a certain place in the state which made it rather difficult, but I don't think this stood up. I think you could defeat this type of legislation.

The Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission will be held March 19th and 20th at the Admiral Semmes Hotel in Mobile, Alabama.



I would suggest that between now and then this Commission meet with committees from our fishing interests to see what it is that is bugging them and to see if we can come up with some recommendations and go to the Gulf States with them and talk with these other administrators.

I think it would be nice if some of our shrimpers would show up there and back up our play a little bit. At the same time, I think we could set up a system either with our lawyers, or lawyers representing the shrimp interest, or both working together to design proper legislation to take care of this.

These are the best recommendations I can make at this time without knowing more details of what the specific problem is.

THE CHAIRMAN: Dr. St. Amant, from what you say, it appears that your recommendation would be the proper way to proceed and I suggest you do that unless I hear something different. Gentlemen.





MR. KYLE: Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kyle.

MR. KYLE: I object to that because that's a meet and eat. What I would like to suggest is first that the Commission be educated as to what our regulations are, what the fees are, what the differences in them are from Texas, and then specifically to bring them before the Commission and see if we have to take any action.

I am reading now from Dr. Ford to the Supervisor of Revenue:

The policy of the Revenue Section is and has been for a number of years, to accept any non-resident trawling application accompanied by the required affidavit and to issue a non-resident trawling license. I can find no record of how or why this policy evolved, only that it exists and will continue until



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such time that we are properly notified to discontinue same.

I can find no specific authority to do so except departmental policy with the sole exception of Alabama which has entered into a reciprocal agreement with Louisiana.

DR. ST. AMANT: What that means is that if you come in and ask for a non-resident license, he will sell it to you. He can't deny you a license for any particular reason.

MR. KYLE: But if Texas is discriminating against our boats and whether we can or cannot do something about it, we should at least know an attempt was made at it.

THE CHAIRMAN:: Mr. Hoffpauer.

MR. HOFFPAUER: The whole thing is that Texas charges our boats more to fish over there than we charge Texas boats to fish here.

There is very little difference: \$40.00



a boat, \$5.00 a man in Texas; and over here it is \$30.00 or \$40.00 a boat and no charge for the man.

If we can get legislation saying we are going to charge Texas boats so much --

DR. ST. AMANT: All you have to do is get legislation that says -- if you want to -- we will charge any other state exactly what they are charging us.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Yes, sir. Just stay away from the shrimp size.

DR. ST. AMANT: That would be another segment of the statute anyway; you wouldn't have it in the same place.

If you would like, Mr. Kyle, I will see that we prepare a memorandum which states exactly what these differences are in dollars and cents to the fishermen and so forth. I will also see to it that in the memorandum we make the specific recommendation as to how it will be handled.

I take it you would prefer we wait until the next Commission meeting before we take any



action. The next meeting will be in March.

MR. KYLE: Don't take any action, but let me say this --

DR. ST. AMANT: We can't take any action at Gulf States except to explore it. I think this is an area we should explore before we come back to the Commission. We will have a better understanding of why Texas is doing this.

MR. KYLE: My thing was not to get the regulation regarding the size or anything else because I think as far as the Commission is concerned you are up on a pedestal. This was a request for economic information.

DR. ST. AMANT: Well, I can find that out. That will be no problem. We will get it for you at the next meeting.

MR. KYLE: Thank you, Dr. St. Amant.

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, let's proceed in that manner then.

DR. ST. AMANT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission.



MR. WINFREE: What was the final ruling?

THE CHAIRMAN: I think that we would proceed in that manner, but I am not too sure what that was.

(Laughter)

MR. THOMPSON: You mean leave it to Dr. St. Amant.

THE CHAIRMAN: That's it, in that manner. It appears he meets the request of Mr. Kyle to work it out.

The next item on the agenda will be presented by Mr. Herring.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission:

The citizens of Louisiana and the nation are becoming increasingly aware of the accelerating deterioration of the environment, the pollution of rivers and streams, the desecration of the landscape, the pollution of the air we breathe, the loss of scenic beauty and the loss of historically important landmarks and landscape.



The Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission finds that Louisiana has certain rivers, streams and bayous that possess unique and outstanding scenic, fish, wildlife, geological, botanical, recreational, historical, archeological and cultural values of both present and potential benefit to the citizen of this state and the nation.

The Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission finds that the policy of channelization, channel realignment, clearing and snagging, indiscriminate reservoir construction and the encroachment of urban, commercial and industrial developments needs to be complemented by a program that would preserve, protect and develop the quality of our natural streams and bayous. In a state once blessed with thousands of miles of natural meandering rivers, streams and bayous, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission finds only a few natural free-flowing streams left and therefore feels a strong obligation to



the citizens of Louisiana and to future generations to urge the protection and preservation of the few streams or remnants thereof that remain in their natural or scenic state.

I, therefore, recommend to the Commission for its consideration the following resolution:

#### R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS the citizens of Louisiana and the nation are becoming increasingly aware of the accelerating deterioration of the environment, the pollution of rivers and streams, the desecration of the landscape, the pollution of the air we breathe, the loss of scenic beauty and the loss of historically important landmarks and landscapes,

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission





finds that Louisiana has certain rivers, streams, and bayous that possess unique and outstanding scenic, fish, wildlife, geological, botanical, recreational, historical, archaeological and cultural values of both present and potential benefit to the citizens of this state and the nation,

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission finds that the policy of channelization, channel realignment, clearing and snagging, indiscriminate reservoir construction and the encroachment of urban, commercial and industrial developments needs to be complemented by a program that would preserve, protect and develop the quality of our natural streams and bayous,



WHEREAS, in a state once blessed with thousands of miles of natural, meandering rivers, streams and bayous, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission finds only a few natural free-flowing streams left and therefore feels a strong obligation to the citizens of Louisiana and to future generations to urge the protection and preservation of the few streams or remnants thereof that remain in their natural or scenic state,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby endorse and support the concept of stream preservation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby



request that the Louisiana Legislature enact the necessary legislation to establish a stream preservation system that would halt the needless destruction of some of the state's few remaining natural rivers and streams in order that these may be enjoyed by future generations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby recommend to the Governor and to the Louisiana Legislature that the following names of streams, bayous, and rivers be considered for purposes of stream preservation: Pushepatapa Creek, Washington, from the Louisiana-Mississippi state line to its entrance into the Pearl River;



Pearl River, Washington and St.  
Tammany Parishes, from the  
Louisiana-Mississippi state line  
to its entrance into Lake  
Pontchartrain;

Bogue Chitto River, Washington  
and St. Tammany Parishes, from  
the Louisiana-Mississippi state  
line to its entrance into the  
Pearl River;

Tchefuncte River, Washington,  
Tangipahoa and St. Tammany  
Parishes, from its origin in  
Tangipahoa Parish to its entrance  
into Lake Pontchartrain;

Tangipahoa, Tangipahoa Parish,  
from the Louisiana-Mississippi  
state line to its entrance into  
Lake Pontchartrain;

Chappeeela Creek, Tangipahoa  
Parish, from Louisiana Highway  
#1062 to its entrance into Lake  
Pontrchartrain;



Tickfaw River, St. Helena and  
Livingston Parishes, from the  
Louisiana-Mississippi state line  
to its entrance into Lake  
Maurepas;

Amite River, East Feliciana and  
St. Helena Parishes, from the  
Louisiana-Mississippi state line  
to Highway #37;

Comite River, East Feliciana, and  
East Baton Rouge Parishes, from  
the Wilson-Clinton Highway in  
East Feliciana parish to Dyer  
Road in East Baton Rouge parish;

Thompson Creek, East and West  
Feliciana Parishes, from the  
Louisiana-Mississippi state line  
to the entrance of Karr Creek;

Bayou Sara, West Feliciana Parish,  
from the Louisiana-Mississippi  
state line to its entrance into  
the Mississippi River;



Blind River, St. James, Ascension  
and Livingston Parishes, from  
its origin in St. James parish to  
its entrance into Lake Maurepas;  
Bayou Des Allemands, Lafourche  
and St. Charles Parishes, from  
Lac Des Allemands to Lake  
Salvador;

Mermentau River, Vermilion, Acadia  
and Jefferson Davis Parishes,  
from Highway#90 to Highway#14;  
Calcasieu River, Vernon, Rapides,  
Allen, Jefferson Davis, and  
Calcasieu Parishes, from its  
origin in Vernon parish to Hecker  
in Calcasieu parish;

Whiskey Chitto Creek, Allen,  
Vernon and Beauregard Parishes,  
from its origin in Vernon parish  
to its entrance into the Calcasieu  
River;



Six Mile Creek, Vernon and Allen  
Parishes, from its origin in  
Vernon parish to its entrance  
into Whiskey Chitto Creek;

Ten Mile Creek, Vernon and Allen  
Parishes, from its origin in  
Vernon parish to its entrance  
into Whiskey Chitto Creek;

Bayou Toro, Sabine and Vernon  
Parishes, from its origin in  
Sabine parish to its entrance  
into Sabine River;

Beckwith Creek, Beauregard and  
Calcasieu Parishes, from its  
origin in Beauregard parish to  
its confluence with Hickory  
Branch;

Hickory Branch, Beauregard and  
Calcasieu Parishes, from its  
origin in Beauregard parish to  
its confluence with Beckwith  
Creek;



Little River, Rapides, Grant,  
Catahoula and LaSalle Parishes,  
from Highway#165 in Grant and  
Rapides parishes to its entrance  
into Catahoula Lake;

Dugdemonia River, Winn, Bienville  
and Jackson Parishes, from  
Highway#4 to its entrance into  
Little River;

Big Creek, Grant Parish, from  
Highway#167 in Grant Parish to  
its entrance into Little River;

Fish Creek, Grant Parish, from  
its origin near Williams to its  
entrance into Little River;

Trout Creek, LaSalle Parish, from  
Highway#8 to its entrance into  
Little River;

Bayou Bartholomew, Morehouse  
Parish, from the Louisiana-  
Arkansas state line to Dead  
Bayou;





Bayou L'Outre, Union and Ouachita  
Parishes, from the Louisiana-  
Arkansas state line to its en-  
trance into the Ouachita River;  
Ouachita River, Union, Morehouse,  
Ouachita, Caldwell and Catahoula  
Parishes, from the Louisiana-  
Arkansas state line to its  
confluence with the Tensas  
River to form Black River;  
Corney Bayou, Claiborne, Union  
and Lincoln Parishes, from the  
Louisiana-Arkansas state line  
to Corney Lake and Corney Lake  
Dam to Lake D'Arbonne;  
Middle Fork, Claiborne and Union  
Parishes, from its origin near  
Highway#2 Alternate to Lake  
D'Arbonne;



Saline Bayou, Bienville, Winn  
and Natchitoches Parishes, from  
its origin near Bryceland to  
Highway #156 in Winn parish;  
Black Lake Bayou, Red River,  
Winn, Bienville, Webster and  
Claiborne Parishes, from the  
Webster-Bienville parish line  
to Highway #155 in Natchitoches  
parish;

Bayou Dorcheat, Webster Parish,  
from the Louisiana-Arkansas  
state line to Lake Bistineau;  
Bayou Bodcau, Bossier and  
Webster Parishes, from the  
Louisiana-Arkansas state line  
to Highway #157 in Bossier  
parish;

Bayou Kisatchie, Natchitoches  
Parish, from its entrance into



Kisatchie National Forest to  
its entrance into Old River;  
Spring Creek, Rapides Parish,  
from Otis to Cocodrie Lake in  
Rapides parish;  
Saline Bayou, Catahoula, and  
LaSalle Parishes, from Saline  
Lake to Larto Lake;  
Bayou Penchant, Terrebonne  
Parish, from Bayou Chene to its  
entrance into Lake Penchant;  
Bayou Cocodrie, Concordia  
Parish, from Wild Cow Bayou to  
Little Cross Bayou;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED  
that copies of this resolution  
be forwarded to the Governor  
and to each member of the  
Louisiana Legislature.



THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. WINFREE: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

MR. THOMPSON: I second the motion, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Winfree and seconded by Mr. Thompson.

Is there any further discussion? Is there any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered. Number thirteen, Mr. Herring.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, the next item on the agenda was just something we would like for the people to be aware of.

This year we do stand to lose some federal money, that is, matching money in our PR program which we set up for game work.

As you know, we submit a budget to our federal agencies and we also submit a budget to our State Division of Administration.



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In the past two or three years, much of the equipment and personnel have been cut out of these budgets, so we haven't been able to spend some of the federal money that we have available. Now, this federal money can carry over for a two-year period, but this year it looks like we may have some of this money that has been carried over -- we will not be able to spend it and we do stand a chance of losing it unless we do have some matching funds from the state. This would be in the neighborhood of some \$50,000.00 to \$66,000.00.

We will have some money to carry over from this year to next year and that money would be a build-up then. We would stand to lose even more next year than we would this year. We would like to bring this to the attention of the Commission.

At various times in the past we have had some of our conservation funds taken away from us and this money could have been used along with some matching funds from the federal money that we do receive.



This is very cheap money we might say. In our game work and in our fisheries work, most of our projects are three-quarters federal money and one quarter state money. So we get seventy-five cents when we put twenty-five cents on the dollar there. So this time we do stand to lose some of the money.

THE CHAIRMAN: It is my understanding you are going to put out a news release on that, Mr. Herring.

MR. HERRING: Yes, sir. We would like to get some news releases out on this just to let the people know that we do stand to lose some money now and in the future.

THE CHAIRMAN: You will have those out this week?

MR. HOFFPAUER: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Herring.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission.

THE CHAIRMAN: The next item of



business will be presented by Mr. Hoffpauer pertaining to ramps.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Gentlemen, we have a problem with our boat launching ramps. We built them and then we have a problem of maintenance.

I would like to go ahead from the Commission to explore the possibilities of having either the Department of Highways or the respective Police Juries maintain these ramps.

The reason for this is that we don't have the equipment. I recently had to send out agents, biologists, and everything else with chainsaws, shovels, and hoes in trying to fill up some holes. On top of that, we get criticized for not holding them up.

Some of the Police Juries are very receptive to it and the Highway Department would be the ideal set-up and I would like to approach the Highway Board with it, if I could.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do I hear a motion that we authorize Mr. Hoffpauer to negotiate along those lines?



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MR. NORRIS: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

MR. WRIGHT: I second the motion,  
Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Norris and  
seconded by Mr. Wright.

Is there any further discussion? Is  
there any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered.

Mr. LaFleur, please give us a brief  
report about the Chevron fire in the Gulf.

MR. LAFLEUR: Mr. Chairman and Members  
of the Commission:

The Chevron well as I know of it right  
now is still afire. She is blowing under 1500  
pounds PSI, pounds per square inch, and burning  
just about everything its blowing.

There is on occasion a rather dull sheen  
that appears to be something that looks like  
distillate or even diesel on the water. But at  
this time, we do not have what we could construe





as oil pollution as a result of this burning well.

We do certainly recognize the possibilities that there will be some oil pollution as a result of this well burning when Mr. Adair puts that well out. We don't know how many wells at this point are burning but there is at least one. There are, as you know, twelve wells that come in on this platform although not all are producers. Some are dead, but at least one is burning.

Until that well is capped, you run the good possibility of getting some oil pollution out there. It is my understanding that the Chevron people have on site and available for immediate use materials, booms, hay, and as I understand it, a pretty fair marshland navy to deal with this oil spill when and if it should occur.

Any questions that I can answer for the Commission, I will try.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any questions?

(No response)



THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much,  
Mr. LaFleur.

Any other business to come before the  
Commission at this time?

(No response)

MR. THOMPSON: I move that we adjourn  
the meeting.

MR. WRIGHT: I second the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Thompson  
and seconded by Mr. Wright. The meeting is  
adjourned.

...ooo...

. . . Thereupon, the Board Meeting  
of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries  
Commission was adjourned at 12:45 o'clock  
p.m. on Tuesday, February 24, 1970.



C E R T I F I C A T E

I, the undersigned reporter, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing is a true and correct transcription of the stenographic (Stenotype) notes of the proceedings herein, taken down by me and transcribed under my supervision, at the time and place hereinbefore noted, in the above-entitled and -numbered cause (s).

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, this 6th  
day of April, ~~1969~~ 1970

Arthur W. Smith  
REPORTER